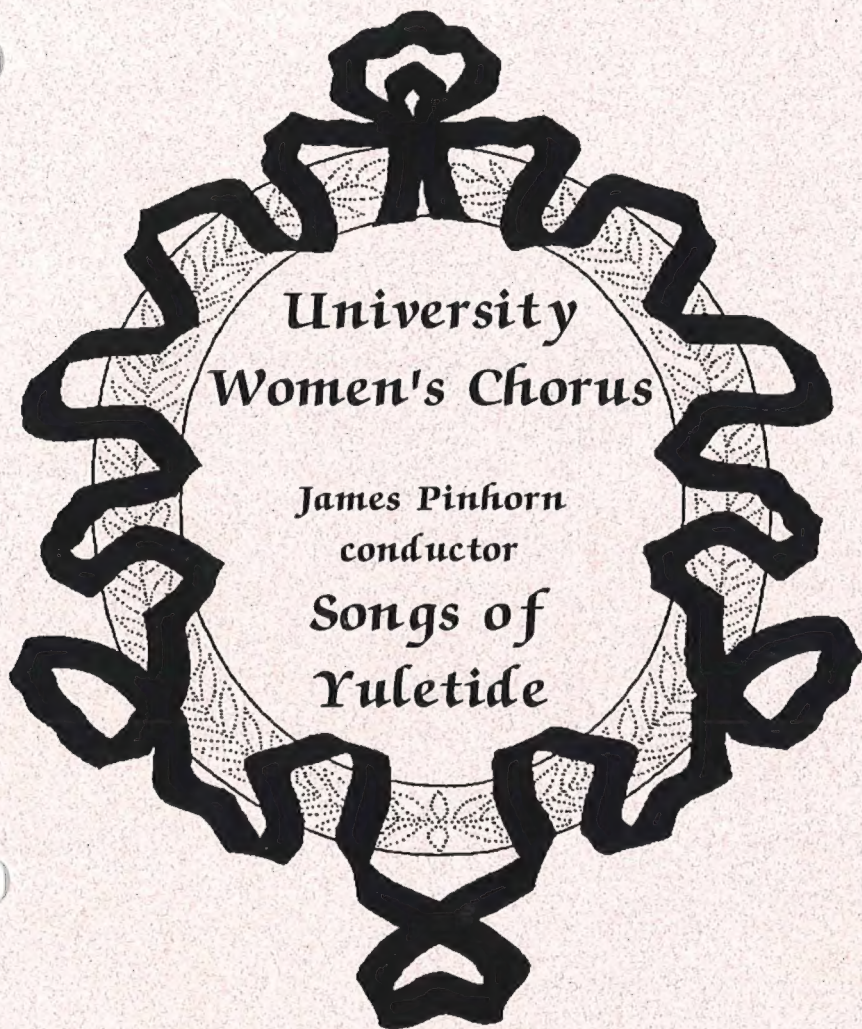


C 95-77

University of Toronto

Faculty of Music



Saturday, November 25, 1995

8 pm

Walter Hall

Edward Johnson Building

PROGRAMME

Apple -Tree Wassail

arr. Stephen Hatfield

from "Pagliacci"
Bell Chorus

Ruggiero Leoncavallo
arr. Greg Pliska

Seven Joys of Christmas
A Sequence of Carols

Kirk Mechem

I The Joy of Love: **This is the truth** (trad. English)
Soloist: Ariana Chris

II The Joy of Bells: **Din don! merrily on high** (French)

III The Joy of Mary: **Joseph dearest, Joseph mine** (trad. German)

IV The Joy of Children: **Patapan** (trad. Burgundian)

V The Joy of the New Year: **New Year Song** (trad. Japanese)

VI The Joy of Dance: **Fum, fum, fum!** (trad. Spanish)

VII The Joy of Song: **God bless the master of this house** (trad. English)

INTERMISSION

The First Shepherds
(Los Primeros Pastores)

Francisco J. Nuñez

Soloist: Kimberly Madill

1. Dawn
2. Meridian
3. Twilight

Sir Christēmas

Derek Holman

I Proface, welcome!

II Sir Christēmas

III The Wassail

Soloist: Tanya Thompson

IV Omnes gentes plaudite

V Here comes Holly

Soloists: DeAnna Hendriks

Gwen Norton

Kelly Campbell

Jessica Severin

VI Ivy, chief of trees

Soloist: Glynis Ratcliffe

VII Nay, ivy, nay

VIII Now have good day!

A Child Is Born

Nick Page

Program Notes and Translations

Apple Tree Wassail

This traditional folk song from Devon and Somerset in England was originally used to bless farmers and their orchards on Epiphany, the twelfth day of Christmas. The references to "lily white" clothing is very tongue-in-cheek, suggesting the fine clothes the farmer's family could supposedly afford to wear. Through scoops, slides and shouted texts, Canadian composer Stephen Hatfield captures the fun and frivolity of the drunken carollers at the farmer's door.

Bell Chorus from Pagliacci

In Leoncavallo's opera "Pagliacci", this Bell Chorus takes place just after a troupe of actors arrive in the village of Calabria. The bells signal that the evening Vespers are about to begin, but they also usher in the romance of evening for the youth of the village.

(Translation from Italian to English)

Ding dong, to the chapel now, you maidens and boys, Ding dong!
Go two by two and arm in arm.
Ding dong, now the sun goes down to make way for stars.
Your parents are watching so be on your guard.
Ding dong, now the night is bright with moonlight and love.
But the old folks know youthful hearts. They watch from afar.

Seven Joys of Christmas

This sequence of traditional carols from around the world was composed by Kirke Mechem for the Chamber Singers, San Francisco College for Women in Christmas of 1964. The carols explore seven secular and sacred joys experienced in the Christmas season. The score is dedicated to Randall Thompson "with affection, and in admiration of a lifetime devoted to the joy of music."



The First Shepherds

The First Shepherds is a traditional Spanish poem which Francisco Nuñez has divided into three sections. The first, Dawn, opens with the call of a rooster announcing the birth of Christ. The chorus then tells the Christmas story. The second Movement, Meridian, tells of the shepherds jumping for joy when hearing the news of the birth, while others scurry away in fright. The final movement, Twilight, imitates the ringing of bells in celebration of the Christmas story.

(Translation from Spanish to English)

1. Dawn

"Cock-a-doodle-doo! Christ is Born!" "Who told you so?"

"Oh I know. Listen and see how it happened.

'Tis not only I who say it, hundreds say it."

The angels in the heavens descended with splendence,
singing Hymns and psalms and informing the shepherds.

With words of praise all the lands are singing:

"Glory to God in the highest and peace to all people on earth!"

2. Meridian

When the shepherds heard what the angels sang,
some jumped with joy and others scurried away with fright.

3. Twilight

They all went to Bethlehem with revelry and merry making.

And when they saw the Child they played the castanets.

Sounding trumpets and drums, they entered the manger.

They left presents and adored Jesus.

The Christ Child blessed them and appreciated their kindness.

The shepherds kissed His feet with love and tenderness.

Sir Christēmas

The Canadian Children's Opera Chorus commissioned Canadian composer Derek Holman to write *Sir Christēmas* in 1987, and it was first performed on December 5th of that year. Using English poems from the 15th and 16th centuries, Holman welcomes both the audience and "Sir Christēmas" into a grand celebration. He blesses both farmers and their crops with a gentle "Wassail", bemuses the stature of both Christmas birds and Christmas flowers, and then wishes us all *Now have good day!*

A Child Is Born

Nick Page wrote *A Child Is Born* for the Chicago Children's Choir in October 1992. The style in this piece is reminiscent of both American Gospel and South African choral music. The child in the work refers to all children, to all of us who are "magnified in glory".

Tonight's Conductor

James Pinhorn is a native of St. John's, Newfoundland where he appeared frequently on both CBC Radio and Television as a boy soprano and actor. He moved to Toronto in 1985 and completed a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of Toronto. During a year of Special Studies in Elementary Education and Choral Conducting at the University, Mr. Pinhorn served as the Assistant Conductor of the Concert Choir conducted by Doctor Doreen Rao. During that year he was invited by Dr. Rao to conduct the choir in a performance of *Sharon Fragments* at a gala concert honouring Canadian composer John Beckwith. That same year Mr. Pinhorn was invited by Robert Cooper to conduct the back-stage chorus in three performances of Ravel's ballet *Daphnis et Chloe* for the National Ballet of Canada. He also served as conductor of the University Chorus at the University of Toronto for two years before accepting his present post. Mr. Pinhorn is a vocal coach for the Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir, conducted by Robert Cooper, and is currently a music teacher with the Scarborough Board of Education where he has conducted the Chamber Choir at Scarborough Music Camp for two consecutive years.



The University Women's Chorus

The University Women's Chorus was formed in 1986 under the direction of Michael Coghlan and was conducted by Ann Cooper Gay from 1988 to the Spring of 1993. The present conductor began his leadership in September 1993. The repertoire of the Women's Chorus spans a broad spectrum, from early music to contemporary Canadian composers, and from works composed for young voices to the challenging works composed for adult treble choruses.

The chorus was the first University of Toronto Choir to receive an award in the CBC Radio Choral Competition, which led to the commissioning of a work, *Missa Brevis*, by the well-known composer Derek Holman whose work *Sir Christëmas* we perform this evening. The Women's Chorus embarked on its first tour in 1993, to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York and has often premiered new works by student composers.

Women's Chorus
James Pinhorn, conductor

Soprano I

Eugenia Ambrozaitis
Shannon Butcher
Kelly Campbell
Kimberly Madill
Amelia Nurse
Glynis Ratcliffe
Peggy Sheehan
Tanya Thompson

Soprano II

Ariana Chris
Yoo Mi Chung
Deanna Hendriks
Eun Sung Julie Kim
Gwen Norton
Jessica Severin
Nelly Shin
Justyna Szajna
Krista White

Alto I

Jennifer Arra
Bryanna Beale
Danielle Berry
Marina Fesdekjian
Azusa Iwaki
Leela Khurana
Hwa-Ing Kwek

Alto II

Winnie Au
Sarah Carleton
Samantha Hirst
Eun-Keong Claire Lee
Anna Maria Tiberio (manager/librarian)
Lisa Toussaint
Margaret Walker
Julia Yue

Accompanist

Vanessa Lee

Upcoming Choral Concerts

The University of Toronto
Community Symphony Chorus
presents
A Carol Festival
Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30 pm
Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre
95 St. Joseph Street
Free Admission

The MacMillan Singers
with the
Elmer Iseler Singers
Elmer Iseler, conductor
The Glory of Christmas
Nees: Magnificat
Tavener: Christmas Music
Friday, December 1 at 8 pm
St. Patrick's Catholic Church
(Dundas & McCaul)
\$20/\$15 or 2 for \$30
Call: 595-0937

University of Toronto Symphony Chorus
Lori-Anne Dolloff, conductor
Pachelbel: Magnificat in G
Haydn: Missa Sancti Johannes de Deo
Halley: Love Songs for Springtime
Saturday, March 16, 1996 at 8 pm
Trinity College Chapel, 6 Hoskin Avenue
Tickets \$5

University Women's Chorus
James Pinhorn, conductor
Voices of Many Lands
Bach: Wer da glaubet und getauft wird
from Cantata No. 37
Rao (arr.): Pergolesi Suite
Folk Song arrangements by Daley, Calvert
Raminsh and Hatfield
Walter Hall
Tickets \$5, 978-3744